Driving the vehicle

The following procedures should be observed to ensure safe driving:

Starting the hybrid system

→P. 152

Driving

STEP 1 With the brake pedal depressed, select the D position. (→P. 160)

Check that the shift position indicator shows D.

STEP 2 Release the parking brake. (→P. 167)

STEP 3 Gradually release the brake pedal and gently depress the accelerator pedal to accelerate the vehicle.

Stopping

STEP 1 With the D position illuminated on the shift position indicator, depress the brake pedal.

STEP 2 If necessary, set the parking brake.

If the vehicle will be stopped for an extended period of time, select the P position. (→P. 160)

Parking the vehicle

STEP 1 Stop the vehicle by depressing the brake pedal.

STEP 2 Set the parking brake. (→P. 167)

If parking on a hill, block the wheels as needed.

STEP 3 Press the P position switch to shift into P. (→P. 161)

Check that the shift position indicator shows P. (→P. 160)

STEP 4 Press the “POWER” switch to stop the hybrid system.

STEP 5 Slowly release the brake pedal and check that the indicator on the “POWER” switch is off.

STEP 6 Lock the door, making sure that you have the electronic key on your person.

Starting off on a steep uphill

STEP 1 Make sure that the parking brake is set securely, and then select shift position D.
Check that the shift position indicator shows D.

STEP 2 Gently depress the accelerator pedal.

STEP 3 Release the parking brake.

Driving in the rain

- Drive carefully when it is raining, because visibility will be reduced, the windows may become fogged-up, and the road will be slippery.
- Drive carefully when it starts to rain, because the road surface will be especially slippery.
- Refrain from high speeds when driving on an expressway in the rain, because there may be a layer of water between the tires and the road surface, preventing the steering and brakes from operating properly.

Breaking in your new Lexus

To extend the life of the vehicle, observing the following precautions is recommended:

- For the first 186 miles (300 km):
  Avoid sudden stops.
- For the first 994 miles (1600 km):
  - Do not drive at extremely high speeds.
  - Avoid sudden acceleration.
  - Do not drive at a constant speed for extended periods.

Drum-in-disc type parking brake system

Your vehicle has a drum-in-disc type parking brake system. This type of brake system needs bedding-down of the brake shoes periodically or whenever the parking brake shoes and/or drum are replaced. Have your Lexus dealer perform the bedding down operation.

Operating your vehicle in a foreign country

Comply with the relevant vehicle registration laws and confirm the availability of the correct fuel. (→P. 562)

For efficient use

- Select the D position when driving.
  In the N position, the gasoline engine operates but electricity cannot be generated. The hybrid battery (traction battery) will discharge, requiring unnecessary engine power to recharge.
- Drive your vehicle smoothly.
  Avoid abrupt acceleration and deceleration. Gradual acceleration and deceleration will make more effective use of the electric motor (traction motor) without having to use gasoline engine power.
- Avoid repeated acceleration.
  Repeated acceleration consumes hybrid battery (traction battery) power, resulting in poor acceleration. Battery power can be restored by driving with the accelerator pedal slightly released.
- Select the P position when parking.
  In the N position, the hybrid battery (traction battery) does not recharge. Leaving the N position selected for an extended period of time may discharge the hybrid battery. The vehicle cannot run if the hybrid battery is discharged.

Eco-friendly driving

During Eco-friendly acceleration (Eco driving), Eco Driving Indicator Light will turn on. When the accelerator pedal is depressed excessively, and when the vehicle is stopped, the light turns off.

Eco Driving Indicator Light will not operate in the following conditions:

- The shift position is anything other than D.
- The driving mode is set to power mode or EV drive mode. (→P. 157, 162)
- The vehicle speed is approximately 80 mph (130 km/h) or higher.

Customization

Settings for Eco Driving Indicator Light can be changed.
(Customizable features →P. 584)

CAUTION

■ **When starting the vehicle**

Always keep your foot on the brake pedal while stopped with the hybrid system operating. This prevents the vehicle from creeping.

■ **When driving the vehicle**

- Do not drive if you are unfamiliar with the location of the brake and accelerator pedals to avoid depressing the wrong pedal.
  - Accidentally depressing the accelerator pedal instead of the brake pedal will result in sudden acceleration that may lead to an accident that could result in death or serious injury.
  - When backing up, you may twist your body around, leading to a difficulty in operating the pedals. Make sure to operate the pedals properly.
  - Make sure to keep a correct driving posture even when moving the vehicle only slightly. This allows you to depress the brake and accelerator pedals properly.
  - Depress the brake pedal using your right foot. Depressing the brake pedal using your left foot may delay response in an emergency, resulting in an accident.
- The driver should pay extra attention to pedestrians when the vehicle is powered only by the electric motor (traction motor). Because there is no engine noise, the pedestrians may misjudge the vehicle's movement.
- Do not drive the vehicle over or stop the vehicle near flammable materials.
  The exhaust system and exhaust gases can be extremely hot. These hot parts may cause a fire if there is any flammable material nearby.
- Do not let the vehicle roll backward while a forward driving position is selected, or roll forward while R is selected.
  Doing so may result in an accident or damage to the vehicle.
- If the smell of exhaust is noticed inside the vehicle, open the windows and check that the trunk is closed. Large amounts of exhaust in the vehicle can cause driver drowsiness and an accident, resulting in death or a serious health hazard. Have the vehicle inspected by your Lexus dealer immediately.
- Do not shift the shift position to P while the vehicle is moving.
  Doing so can damage the transmission and may result in a loss of vehicle control.
- Do not shift the shift position to R while the vehicle is moving forward.
  Doing so can damage the transmission and may result in a loss of vehicle control.

⚠ CAUTION

- Do not shift the shift position to D while the vehicle is moving backward.
  Doing so can damage the transmission and may result in a loss of vehicle control.
- Moving the shift position to N while the vehicle is moving will disengage the hybrid system. Engine braking is not available with the hybrid system disengaged.
- During normal driving, do not turn off the hybrid system. Turning the hybrid system off while driving will not cause loss of steering or braking control, but the power assist to these systems will be lost. This will make it more difficult to steer and brake, so you should pull over and stop the vehicle as soon as it is safe to do so.
  However, in the event of an emergency, such as if it becomes impossible to stop the vehicle in the normal way: →P. 558
- Use engine braking (shift position B) to maintain a safe speed when driving down a steep hill.
  Using the brakes continuously may cause the brakes to overheat and lose effectiveness. (→P. 160)
- Do not adjust the positions of the steering wheel, the seat, or the inside or outside rear view mirrors while driving.
  Doing so may result in a loss of vehicle control that can cause accidents, resulting in death or serious injury.
- Always check that all passengers' arms, heads or other parts of their body are not outside the vehicle, as this may result in death or serious injury.
- Do not drive in excess of the speed limit. Even if the legal speed limit permits it, do not drive over 85 mph (140 km/h) unless your vehicle has high-speed capability tires. Driving over 85 mph (140 km/h) may result in tire failure, loss of control and possible injury. Be sure to consult a tire dealer to determine whether the tires on your vehicle are high-speed capability tires or not before driving at such speeds.

■ When driving on slippery road surfaces

- Sudden braking, acceleration and steering may cause tire slippage and reduce your ability to control the vehicle, resulting in an accident.
- Abrupt changes from shift position D to B and rapid changes in the engine speed could cause the vehicle to skid, resulting in an accident.

CAUTION

- After driving through a puddle, lightly depress the brake pedal to make sure that the brakes are functioning properly. Wet brake pads may prevent the brakes from functioning properly. If the brakes on only one side are wet and not functioning properly, steering control may be affected, resulting in an accident.

When changing the shift position

Be careful not to change the shift position with the accelerator pedal depressed. Changing the shift position to any positions other than P or N may cause the vehicle to accelerate abruptly, causing an accident and resulting in death or serious injury.

After changing the shift position, make sure to confirm the current shift position displayed on the shift position indicator inside the meter.

If you hear a squealing or scraping noise (brake pad wear limit indicators)

Have your Lexus dealer check and replace the brake pads as soon as possible. Rotor damage may result if the pads are not replaced when needed.

It is dangerous to drive the vehicle when the wear limits of the brake pads and/or those of the brake discs are exceeded.

When the vehicle is stopped

- Do not depress the accelerator pedal unnecessarily.
  If the vehicle is in any shift position other than P or N, the vehicle may accelerate suddenly and unexpectedly, causing an accident.
- Do not leave the vehicle with the hybrid system on for a long time.
  If such a situation cannot be avoided, park the vehicle in an open space and check that exhaust fumes do not enter the vehicle interior.
- In order to prevent accidents due to the vehicle rolling away, always keep depressing the brake pedal while the “READY” indicator is on. Apply the parking brake as necessary.
- If the vehicle is stopped on an incline, in order to prevent accidents caused by the vehicle rolling forward or backward, always depress the brake pedal and securely apply the parking brake as needed.
- Avoid revving or racing the engine.
  Running the engine at high speed while the vehicle is stopped may cause the exhaust system to overheat, which could result in a fire if combustible material is nearby.

CAUTION

When the vehicle is parked

- Do not leave glasses, cigarette lighters, spray cans, or soft drink cans in the vehicle when it is in the sun.
  Doing so may result in the following:
  - Gas may leak from a cigarette lighter or spray can, and may lead to a fire.
  - The temperature inside the vehicle may cause the plastic lenses and plastic material of glasses to deform or crack.
  - Soft drink cans may fracture, causing the contents to spray over the interior of the vehicle, and may also cause a short circuit in the vehicle's electrical components.
- Do not leave cigarette lighters in the vehicle. If a cigarette lighter is in a place such as the glove box or on the floor, it may be lit accidentally when luggage is loaded or the seat is adjusted, causing a fire.
- Do not attach adhesive discs to the windshield or windows. Do not place containers such as air fresheners on the instrument panel or dashboard. Adhesive discs or containers may act as lenses, causing a fire in the vehicle.
- Do not leave a door or window open if the curved glass is coated with a metallized film such as a silver-colored one. Reflected sunlight may cause the glass to act as a lens, causing a fire.
- Always apply the parking brake, select shift position P, stop the hybrid system, and lock the vehicle.
  Do not leave the vehicle unattended while the hybrid system is operating.
- Do not touch the exhaust pipe while the hybrid system is operating or immediately after turning the hybrid system off.
  Doing so may cause burns.
- Do not leave the hybrid system operating in an area with snow build-up, or where it is snowing. If snowbanks build up around the vehicle while the hybrid system is operating, exhaust gases may collect and enter the vehicle. This may lead to death or a serious health hazard.

CAUTION

■ Exhaust gases

Exhaust gases include harmful carbon monoxide (CO), which is colorless and odorless. Inhaling exhaust gases may lead to death or a serious health hazard.

- If the vehicle is in a poorly ventilated area, stop the hybrid system. In a closed area, such as a garage, exhaust gases may collect and enter the vehicle. This may lead to death or a serious health hazard.
- The exhaust system should be checked occasionally. If there is a hole or crack caused by corrosion, damage to a joint or abnormal exhaust noise, be sure to have the vehicle inspected and repaired by your Lexus dealer. Failure to do so may allow exhaust gases to enter the vehicle, resulting in death or a serious health hazard.

■ When taking a nap in the vehicle

Always turn the hybrid system off. Otherwise, if you accidentally move the shift lever or depress the accelerator pedal, this could cause an accident or fire due to hybrid system overheating. Additionally, if the vehicle is parked in a poorly ventilated area, exhaust gases may collect and enter the vehicle, leading to death or a serious health hazard.

■ When braking

- When the brakes are wet, drive more cautiously.
  Braking distance increases when the brakes are wet, and this may cause one side of the vehicle to brake differently than the other side. Also, the parking brake may not securely hold the vehicle.
- If the power brake assist function does not operate, do not follow other vehicles closely and avoid downhill or sharp turns that require braking.
  In this case, braking is still possible, but it will require more force on the pedal than usual. Braking distance may also increase.
- The brake system consists of 2 individual hydraulic systems; if one of the systems fails, the others will still operate. In this case, the brake pedal should be depressed more firmly than usual and the braking distance will increase. If this happens, do not continue to drive the vehicle. If the brake system warning light (red indicator) comes on while driving, immediately stop the vehicle in a safe place and contact your Lexus dealer.

NOTICE

■ When driving the vehicle

● Do not depress the accelerator and brake pedals at the same time during driving, as this may restrain driving torque.

● Do not use the accelerator pedal or depress the accelerator and brake pedals at the same time to hold the vehicle on a hill.

■ When parking the vehicle

Be sure to firmly apply the parking brake and set the shift position to P. Failure to do so may cause the vehicle to move or the vehicle may accelerate suddenly if the accelerator pedal is accidentally depressed.

■ Avoiding damage to vehicle parts

● Do not turn the steering wheel fully in either direction and hold it there for an extended period of time.
Doing so may damage the power steering motor.

● When driving over bumps in the road, drive as slowly as possible to avoid damaging the wheels, underside of the vehicle, etc.

■ If you get a flat tire while driving

A flat or damaged tire may cause the following situations. Hold the steering wheel firmly and gradually depress the brake pedal to slow down the vehicle.

● It may be difficult to control your vehicle.

● The vehicle will make abnormal sounds or vibrations.

● The vehicle will lean abnormally.

Information on what to do in case of a flat tire. (→P. 532)

NOTICE

■ **When encountering flooded roads**

Do not drive on a road that has flooded after heavy rain etc. Doing so may cause the following serious damage to the vehicle:

- Engine stalling
- Short in electrical components
- Engine damage caused by water immersion

In the event that you drive on a flooded road and the vehicle is flooded, be sure to have your Lexus dealer check the following:

- Brake function
- Changes in quantity and quality of engine oil, transaxle fluid for the hybrid system etc.
- Lubricant condition for the bearings and suspension joints (where possible), and the function of all joints, bearings, etc.

As flooding may damage components involved in P position control, the parking lock may jam in the locked position.

■ **If the vehicle will not shift out of the P position**

There is a possibility that the 12-volt battery is discharged. Check the 12-volt battery in this situation.

Power (ignition) switch

Performing the following operations when carrying the electronic key on your person starts the hybrid system or changes "POWER" switch modes.

Starting the hybrid system

STEP 1 Check that the parking brake is set.

STEP 2 Firmly depress the brake pedal.

The "POWER" switch indicator will turn green. If the indicator does not turn green, the hybrid system cannot be started.

When shift position N is selected, the hybrid system cannot start. Select the P position when starting the hybrid system. (→P. 161)

STEP 3 Press the "POWER" switch.

After a while, the "READY" indicator comes on with a beep sound.

The vehicle can move when the "READY" indicator is on even if the engine is stopped.

Continue depressing the brake pedal until the hybrid system is completely started.

The hybrid system can be started from any "POWER" switch mode.

STEP 4 Check that the "READY" indicator is on.

The vehicle will not move when the "READY" indicator is off.

Stopping the hybrid system

STEP 1 Stop the vehicle by depressing the brake pedal.

STEP 2 Set the parking brake. (→P. 167)

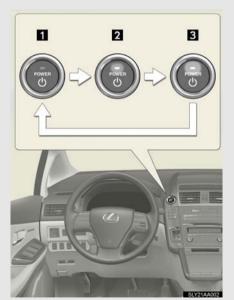
STEP 3 Press the P position switch to shift into P. (→P. 161)

Check that the shift position indicator on the instrument cluster shows P. (→P. 160)

STEP 4 Press the "POWER" switch.

STEP 5 Slowly release the brake pedal and check that the indicator on the "POWER" switch is off.

Changing "POWER" switch modes

Modes can be changed by pressing the "POWER" switch with the brake pedal released. (The mode changes each time the switch is pressed.)

1 Off

The emergency flashers can be used.

2 ACCESSORY mode

Some electrical components such as the audio system can be used.

The "POWER" switch indicator turns amber.

3 ON mode

All electrical components can be used.

The "POWER" switch indicator turns amber.

■ **Auto power off function**

When the shift position is in P, if the vehicle is left in ACCESSORY or ON mode with the hybrid system not operating for more than 20 minutes (ACCESSORY mode) or one hour (ON mode), the “POWER” switch will automatically turn off. However, this function cannot entirely prevent the 12-volt battery from discharging. Do not leave the vehicle with the “POWER” switch in ACCESSORY or ON mode for long periods of time when the hybrid system is not operating.

■ **Sounds and vibrations specific to a hybrid vehicle**

→P. 28

■ **Electronic key battery depletion**

→P. 55

■ **When the ambient temperature is low, such as during winter driving conditions**

It may take time until the “READY” indicator to come on.

■ **Conditions affecting operation**

→P. 52

■ **Notes for the entry function**

→P. 53

■ **If the hybrid system does not start**

The immobilizer system may not have been deactivated. (→P. 101)

■ **When the “POWER” switch indicator flashes in amber**

The system may be malfunctioning. Have the vehicle inspected by your Lexus dealer immediately.

■ **If the “READY” indicator does not come on**

If the “READY” indicator does not come on when you press the “POWER” switch with the shift position in P and the brake pedal depressed, contact your Lexus dealer immediately.

■ **If the hybrid system is malfunctioning**

→P. 512

■ **If the electronic key battery is depleted**

→P. 467

Operation of the “POWER” switch

- When operating the “POWER” switch, one short, firm press is enough. If the switch is pressed improperly, the hybrid system may not start or the “POWER” switch mode may not change. It is not necessary to press and hold the switch.
- If attempting to restart the hybrid system immediately after turning the “POWER” switch off, the hybrid system may not start in some cases. After turning the “POWER” switch off, please wait a few seconds before restarting the hybrid system.

Automatic P position selection function

- When the shift position is in a position other than P, pressing the “POWER” switch with the vehicle stopped completely will cause the shift position to change to P automatically, and then the “POWER” switch will turn off.
- When turning the “POWER” switch off from a position other than P, firmly depress the brake pedal and confirm that the shift position* has changed to P before slowly releasing the brake pedal.

  *: Even after the instrument panel display has been turned off, the shift position indicator will continue to be displayed for several seconds.
- If the P position control system malfunctions, the “POWER” switch will not be able to be turned off. In such a case, the switch can be turned off by applying the parking brake.
  When the system malfunctions, immediately have your vehicle serviced by your Lexus dealer.

CAUTION

■ **When starting the hybrid system**

Always start the hybrid system while sitting in the driver's seat. Do not depress the accelerator pedal while starting the hybrid system under any circumstances. Doing so may cause an accident resulting in death or serious injury.

■ **Stopping the hybrid system in an emergency**

If you want to stop the hybrid system in an emergency while driving the vehicle, press and hold the "POWER" switch for more than 3 seconds.
However, do not touch the "POWER" switch while driving except in an emergency. Turning the hybrid system off while driving will not cause loss of steering or braking control, but the power assist to these systems will be lost. This will make it more difficult to steer and brake, so you should pull over and stop the vehicle as soon as it is safe to do so.

NOTICE

■ **To prevent 12-volt battery discharge**

- Do not leave the "POWER" switch in ACCESSORY or ON mode for long periods of time without the hybrid system on.
- If the hybrid system is off, but the indicator on the "POWER" switch is illuminated, this indicates that the "POWER" switch is still turned on. When exiting the vehicle, always check that the "POWER" switch is off.

■ **When starting the hybrid system**

Do not depress the accelerator pedal unnecessarily.

■ **Symptoms indicating a malfunction with the "POWER" switch**

If the "POWER" switch seems to be operating somewhat differently than usual, such as the switch sticking slightly, there may be a malfunction. Contact your Lexus dealer immediately.

EV drive mode

In EV drive mode, the electric motor (traction motor), powered by the hybrid battery (traction battery), is used to drive the vehicle.

This mode allows you to drive in residential areas late at night, or in indoor parking lots etc. without concern for noises and exhaust gas emissions.

Turns EV drive mode on/off

When EV drive mode is turned on, the EV drive mode indicator will come on. Pressing the switch when in EV drive mode will return the vehicle to normal driving (using the gasoline engine and electric motor [traction motor]).

■ Situations in which EV drive mode cannot be turned on

It may not be possible to turn EV drive mode on in the following situations. If it cannot be turned on, a buzzer will sound and a message will be shown on the multi-information display.

- Vehicle speed is about 19mph (30km/h) or more.
- The hybrid battery (traction battery) is low.
  In general, the remaining battery level indicated in the "Energy Monitor" display is level 3 or lower. (→P. 35)
- The temperature of the hybrid system is high.
  The vehicle has been left in the sun, driven on a hill, driven at high speeds, etc.
- The gasoline engine is warming up.
- The accelerator pedal is depressed firmly or the vehicle is on a hill etc.
- The windshield defogger is in use.

■ Switching to EV drive mode when the gasoline engine is cold

If the hybrid system is started while the gasoline engine is cold, the gasoline engine will start automatically after a short period of time in order to warm up. In this case, you will become unable to switch to EV drive mode.
After the hybrid system has started and the "READY" indicator has illuminated, press the EV drive mode switch before the gasoline engine starts to switch to EV drive mode.

■ Automatic cancellation of EV drive mode

When driving in EV drive mode, the gasoline engine may automatically restart in the following situations. When EV drive mode is canceled, a buzzer will sound and the EV drive mode indicator will flash and go off.

- The hybrid battery (traction battery) becomes low.
  In general, the remaining battery level indicated in the "Energy Monitor" display is level 2 or lower. (→P. 35)
- Vehicle speed becomes more than about 19 mph (30 km/h).
- The accelerator pedal is depressed firmly or the vehicle is on a hill etc.

■ Possible driving distance when driving in EV drive mode

In EV drive mode, it is possible to drive up to about several hundred yards if driving at a speed of about 19 mph (30 km/h) or less. (The distance that is possible depends on the hybrid battery [traction battery] level and driving conditions.)

Fuel economy

HS250h is designed to achieve the best possible fuel economy during normal driving (using the gasoline engine and electric motor [traction motor]). Driving in EV drive mode more than necessary may lower fuel economy.

 CAUTION

Caution while driving

When driving in EV drive mode, pay special attention to the area around the vehicle. Because there is no engine noise, pedestrians, people riding bicycles or other people and vehicles in the area may not be aware of the vehicle starting off or approaching them, so take extra care while driving.

Hybrid transmission

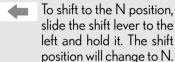
Select a shift position appropriate for the driving conditions.

Shifting the shift lever

1 Shift lever

Operate the shift lever gently and ensure correct shifting operation.

 When shifting to the D or R positions, move the shift lever along the shift gate.

 To shift to the N position, slide the shift lever to the left and hold it. The shift position will change to N.

 Shifting to B is only possible when shift position D is selected.

● The shift lever will always return to this position after a shifting operation.

When shifting from P to D or R, from D to R, or from R to D, ensure that the brake pedal is being depressed and the vehicle is stationary.

2 Shift position indicator

When selecting the shift position, make sure that the shift position has been changed to the desired position by checking the shift position indicator provided on the instrument panel.

When any shift position other than D or B is selected, the arrow toward B and B position indicator disappear from the shift position indicator.

Shift position purpose

Shift position	Function
P	Parking the vehicle/starting the hybrid system
R	Reversing
N	Neutral
D	Normal driving*
B	Applying moderate engine braking when driving down hills or on steep slopes

*: For good fuel economy and noise reduction, the D position should usually be used.

P position switch

The shift position can be changed to P through use of the P position switch.

Fully stop the vehicle and keep depressing the brake pedal, and then press the P position switch.

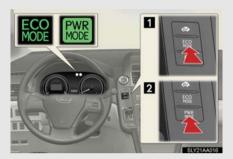
When the shift position is changed to P, the switch indicator comes on.

Check that the P position indicator is illuminated on the shift position indicator.

● Changing the shift position from P to other positions:

- While depressing the brake pedal firmly, operate the shift lever. If the shift lever is operated without depressing the brake pedal, the buzzer will sound and the shifting operation will be disabled.
- The shift position cannot be changed from P to B directly.

Selecting a driving mode

The following modes can be selected to suit driving conditions:

1 Eco drive mode

Suitable for improving the fuel economy, because the torque corresponding to the accelerator pedal depression amount can be generated more smoothly than it is in normal conditions and the operation of the air conditioning system (heating/cooling) will be minimized.

When the "ECO MODE" switch is pressed, the "ECO MODE" indicator comes on in the meter.

2 Power mode

Suitable when the vehicle needs to drive powerfully or travels in mountainous areas.

When the "PWR MODE" switch is pressed, the "PWR MODE" indicator comes on in the meter.

For the shift positions

- When the “POWER” switch is off, the shift position cannot be changed.
- When the “POWER” switch is in ON mode (the hybrid system is not operating), the shift position can only be changed to N. The shift position will be changed to N even if the shift lever is shifted to D or R and held in that position.
- When the “READY” indicator is on, the shift position can be changed from P to D, N or R.
- When the “READY” indicator is flashing, the shift position cannot be changed from P to another position even if the shift lever is operated.
- The shift position can only be changed to B directly from D.

In addition, if the shift position is changed in any of the following situations, the buzzer will sound and the shifting operation will be disabled or the shift position will automatically change to N. When this happens, select an appropriate shift position.

- Situations where the shifting operation will be disabled:
  - When the shift lever is changed from P to another position without depressing the brake pedal.
  - When the shift position is changed from P or N to B.
- Situations where the shift position will automatically change to N:
  - When the P position switch is pressed while the vehicle is running.*1
  - When an attempt is made to select the R position by moving the shift lever when the vehicle is moving forward.*2
  - When an attempt is made to select the D position by moving the shift lever when the vehicle is moving in reverse.*3
  - When an attempt is made to change the shift position from R to B by moving the shift lever.

*1: Shift position may be changed to P when driving at extremely low speeds.

*2: Shift position may be changed to R when driving at low speeds.

*3: Shift position may be changed to D when driving at low speeds.

Reverse warning buzzer

When shifting into R, a buzzer will sound to inform the driver that the shift position is in R.

■ About engine braking

When shift position B is selected, releasing the accelerator pedal will apply engine braking.

- When the vehicle is driven at high speeds, compared to ordinary gasoline-fueled vehicles, the engine braking deceleration is felt less than that of other vehicles.
- The vehicle can be accelerated even when shift position B is selected.

If the vehicle is driven continuously in the B position, fuel efficiency will become low. Usually, select the D position.

■ Using air conditioning in Eco drive mode

The Eco drive mode controls heating/cooling and fan speed operation to improve fuel consumption. When you want to improve the effectiveness of the air conditioning system, adjust the fan speed or cancel the Eco drive mode.

For more information, refer to the “Navigation System Owner’s Manual”.

■ Power mode automatic deactivation

Power mode is automatically deactivated if the “POWER” switch is turned off after driving in power mode.

■ Customization

Settings (e.g. Reverse warning buzzer) can be changed.
(Customizable features →P. 584)

⚠ CAUTION

■ When driving on slippery road surfaces

Do not accelerate or change the shift position suddenly.
Sudden changes in engine braking may cause the vehicle to spin or skid, resulting in an accident.

■ For the shift lever

Do not hang anything on the shift lever.
Doing so could prevent the shift lever from returning to position, causing unexpected accidents to occur when the vehicle is in motion.

CAUTION

P position switch

Do not press the P position switch while the vehicle is moving.
If the P position switch is pressed when driving at extremely low speeds (for example, directly before stopping the vehicle), the vehicle may stop suddenly when the shift position switches to P, which could lead to an accident.

NOTICE

Situations where P position control system malfunctions are possible

If any of the following situations occurs, P position control system malfunctions are possible.
Immediately stop the vehicle in a safe place on level ground, apply the parking brake, and then contact your Lexus dealer.

- When the “P Lock Malfunction” warning message appears on the multi-information display. (→P. 513)
- When the P position switch indicator flashes.
- When the shift position symbols (such as P and R) are flashing on the shift position indicator.
- When the shift position indicator remains off.

When in heavy traffic

If shift position N is selected, the hybrid battery (traction battery) will not be charged. To help prevent the battery from discharging, avoid leaving the N position selected for an extended period of time.

If the vehicle will not shift out of the P position

There is a possibility that the 12-volt battery is discharged. Check the 12-volt battery in this situation.

Notes regarding shift lever and P position switch operation

Avoid repeatedly operating the shift lever and P position switch in quick succession. The system protection function may activate and temporarily prevent the vehicle from shifting out of the P position. If this happens, please wait for around 15 seconds before attempting to change the shift position again.

Turn signal lever

The turn signal lever can be used to show the following intention of the driver:

1 Right turn

2 Left turn

3 Lane change to the right (push and hold the lever partway)

The right hand signals will flash until you release the lever.

4 Lane change to the left (push and hold the lever partway)

The left hand signals will flash until you release the lever.

■ Turn signals can be operated when

The “POWER” switch is in ON mode.

■ If the indicator flashes faster than usual

Check that a light bulb in the front or rear turn signal lights has not burned out.

Parking brake

To set the parking brake, fully depress the parking brake pedal with your left foot while depressing the brake pedal with your right foot.
(Depressing the pedal again releases the parking brake.)

Parking brake engaged warning buzzer

The buzzer sounds to indicate that parking brake is still engaged (with the vehicle having reached a speed of 3 mph [5 km/h]). (→P. 516)

Usage in winter time

See “Winter driving tips” for parking brake usage in winter time. (→P. 258)

NOTICE

Before driving

Fully release the parking brake.
Driving the vehicle with the parking brake set will lead to brake components over-heating, which may affect braking performance and increase brake wear.

Horn

To sound the horn, press on or close to the [horn symbol] mark.

■ After adjusting the steering wheel (manually adjustable type only)

Make sure that the steering wheel is securely locked.
The horn may not sound if the steering wheel is not securely locked. (→P. 83)